

MENTAL HEALTH ADVOCATE	LONG-TERM CARE OMBUDSMAN
	Federally mandated
Service provided to assigned individuals who are under a mental health commitment	Services available to any resident or tenant of a long-term care facility
	Complaints may be submitted by residents, tenants, family members, friends, visitors, or staff
Service continues for the duration of a person's commitment.	Service is time limited—when the complaints have been investigated and resolved, or no further action can be taken, the case is closed.
Works with people under a mental health committal regardless of where they live.	Investigates complaints about nursing homes, assisted living facilities, elder group homes and residential care facilities.
Ensures that persons under commitment are afforded all of their legal rights and that they live in the least restrictive environment.	Advocates for the residents/tenants needs, wants and desires and works to protect the health, safety, welfare and rights of people living in long-term care facilities.
All other duties as outlined in Iowa Code and Judicial Council job description	Provides information and assistance to callers about long-term care to consumers
	Provides technical assistance to long-term care providers
	Presents consumer education programs on long-term care and resident rights
	Presents inservice training for long-term care provider staff

The long-term care ombudsman and mental health advocate may work together when a person

- lives in a nursing home, assisted living facility, elder group home or residential care facility
- voices a desire to move
- has a problem that crosses the boundary between the committal and rights in a facility.